

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT O 02075 171547Z

47

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /057 W

----- 095534

O 171420Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8197

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 2075

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ, TD

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: STATE 194115

1. I DREW ASIDE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DR. CUTHBERT JOSEPH SATURDAY EVENING AT MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S STATE RECEPTION TO DISCUSS COMMITTEE OF 24'S CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO. EARLIER IN THE DAY I HAD MET WITH HIS PERMANENT SECRETARY AND UN AMB-DESIGNATE FRANK ABDULAH.

2. WHILE ABDULAH TOOK APPROACH THAT USG SHOULD NOT BE CONCERNED SINCE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO HAD ALWAYS ABSTAINED ON PUERTO RICO ISSUES AND WOULD CONTINUE TO DO SO, MINISTER JOSEPH SEEMED MORE IMPRESSED BY THE STRENGTH OF USG VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT. I PRESENTED FULL IMPACT OF PARAGRAPH TWO OF REFTEL TO HIM AND ALSO STRESSED THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT IN COMMITTEE OF 24 VOTE HOW ANOTHER CARIBBEAN NATION SUCH AS THE GOTT VOTED. I STRONGLY SOUGHT AN OUTRIGHT NEGATIVE VOTE ON SYRIAN RESOLUTION OR ANYTHING SIMILAR RATHER THAN SIMPLE ABSTENTION. JOSEPH SAID HE WOULD REVIEW THE ISSUE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND CONFIRM INSTRUCTIONS TO GOTT UN DELEGATION PRIOR TO TUESDAY'S VOTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT O 02075 171547Z

3. WHILE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT STRENGTH OF OUR REPRESENTATIONS ON THIS

ISSUE MAY SWAY GOTT TO VOTE NO, I SUSPECT THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO ABSTAIN. PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS RECENTLY MADE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO CUBA, MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA DEPARTED HERE THIS MORNING FOR HAVANA AS LAST STOP ON HIS MARATHON SERIES OF STATE VISITS, AND GOTT IS LOOKING TO THE LAUNCHING OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMITTEE OF ECLA IN HAVANA IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. THESE LINKS AND PAST INCLINATION I SUSPECT WILL LEAD WILLIAMS TO INSIST THAT HIS AMBASSADOR IN NEW YORK ABSTAIN ON THE CUBAN INITIATIVE RATHER THAN APPEAR TO LINE UP DIRECTLY AGAINSG HAVANA. THERE IS FULL UNDERSTANDING HERE OF PUERTO RICAN STATUS, HOWEVER, AND NO LIKELIHOOD IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE THAT GOTT WOULD VOTE AGAINST US ON THIS ISSUE OR LEND ITS PRESTIGE TO CUBAN-SPONSORED "LIBERATION" MOVEMENTS.

4. IN TALKING WITH MINISTER JOSEPH I ALSO STRESSED THAT RECENT PROGRESS IN EASING TENSIONS WITH CUBA WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN WHICH HAD BEEN A GOAL OF DR. WILLIAMS' POLICIES COULD HARDLY BE ASSISTED BY GIVING ANY ENCOURAGEMENT TO CUBAN EFFORTS TO MEDDLE IN PUERTO RICAN SITUATION. I SAID THAT CLEARLY WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS A CLEAR REBUFF OF THIS EFFORT RATHER THAN TOLERANT ABSTENTION.

RICH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RESOLUTIONS, SELFDETERMINATION, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PORTO02075  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750284-0406  
**From:** PORT OF SPAIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750845/aaaabmtr.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 194115  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24  
**TAGS:** PFOR, RQ, TD, CU, UN, COMMITTEE OF 24  
**To:** USUN NEW YORK STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006